From: The IACP
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Subject: IACP"s The Lead: Senate Overwhelmingly Approves Criminal Justice Overhaul.
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Greetings Jeremy Grimes

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

POLICING & POLICY

Senate Overwhelmingly Approves Criminal Justice Overhaul.

Shortly after the Senate voted 87-12 on Tuesday evening to pass the First Step Act, the President took to Twitter to write, "America is the greatest Country in the world and my job is to fight for ALL citizens, even those who have made mistakes. Congratulations to the Senate on the bi-partisan passing of a historic Criminal Justice Reform Bill.... This will keep our communities safer, and provide hope and a second chance, to those who earn it. In addition to everything else, billions of dollars will be saved. I look forward to signing this into law!"

Media reports cast yesterday's vote as a victory for the President. The AP (12/18, Freking), for example, says the bill's passage "culminates years of negotiations and gives...Trump a signature policy victory, with the outcome hailed by scores of conservative and liberal advocacy groups." The Washington Post (12/18, A1, Wagner, Demirjian) likewise says the bill's passage "hand[s] a rare bipartisan victory to President Trump," and the New York Times (12/18, Fandos) calls the measure "the most substantial changes in a generation to the tough-on-crime prison and sentencing laws that ballooned the federal prison population and created a criminal justice system that many conservatives and liberals view as costly and unfair." Its passage, it adds, "offered one final victory on their own terms and handed Mr. Trump a bipartisan policy achievement that he can tout as he seeks re-election."

DOJ Orders Americans To Destroy Bump Stocks Within 90 Days.

The CBS Evening News (12/18, story 5, 0:20, Glor) briefly reported that the Administration yesterday "moved...to ban bump stocks," and NBC Nightly News (12/18, story 4, 1:40, Holt) that the President "followed through on a vow to ban" the devices, "used to amp up fire power in certain rifles, and were used by the gunman in the 2017 mass shooting in Las Vegas that left 58 people dead." The AP (12/18, Balsamo) says acting Attorney General Whitaker signed regulations yesterday that "reverse a 2010 ATF decision that found bump stocks did not amount to machine guns and could not be regulated unless Congress changed existing firearms law or passed a new one."

Reuters (12/18, Lambert) reports that "the Justice Department's regulation follows the lead of many states and retailers that imposed stricter limits on sales of guns and accessories after a deadly March shooting at a Florida high school." However, according to Reuters, the Trump Administration is "already bracing for a lawsuit from the National Rifle Association or other gun ownership groups." The New York Times (12/18, Savage) points out that "the new regulation, which had been expected, would ban the sale or possession of the devices under a new interpretation of existing law," and "Americans who own bump stocks would have 90 days to destroy their devices or to turn them in to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives."

Federal Judge Strikes Down Ban On Nunchucks As Violation Of Second Amendment.

The Washington Post (12/18, Flynn) reports that in 1974, New York state banned "the possession of nunchucks as lawmakers feared they were becoming enticing tools of violence among hooligan children and street criminals who were exposed to the weapons on TV." While "being dangerous might have been a good enough reason then, it doesn't cut it anymore, as a federal judge ruled Friday." US District Judge Pamela K. Chen "struck down New York's nunchuck ban as unconstitutional, finding that nunchucks are protected under the Second Amendment right to bear arms."

Windsor, Canada To Examine Equipping Police With Nalaxone.

CTV News (CAN) (12/18) reports, "Windsor council will be getting a report back on the feasibility of equipping all of the city's first responders with Naloxone." CTV News adds, "Ward 9 Coun. Kieran McKenzie asked for the report last night, saying he wants city staff to engage stakeholders in police and fire, as well as the broader community." According to CTV News, "Neither police nor fire services in Windsor carry Naloxone, which is a drug that can temporarily stop the effects of opioid drugs." Windsor Police Chief Al Frederick "has stated on record that he isn't supportive of his officers carrying the tool because of the risk of administering the drug."

Greenfield, Wisconsin Police Seek Treatment First, Prison Times Second For Addicts.

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel (12/18, Hughes) reports, "Nearly three years ago, the Greenfield Police Department started asking its officers to ease up on suspects of low-level crime – whether possession, theft, burglary – who had an underlying opioid addiction." According the Journal Sentinel, "Tickets didn't need to be written on the spot," "harsh charges didn't necessarily need to be recommended to the district attorney's office. Interrogations about who their supplier is were de-emphasized." The Journal Sentinel adds, "What is now of paramount importance is talking to that individual about how they're going to drop that drug habit, officers were told. 'You can't arrest your way out of this epidemic,' said Assistant Police Chief David Patrick. 'You have to try to help people and try to get them to move on.'" In 2016, the department "launched the CAARE program (Cops Assisting Addiction Recovery), which offers addicts a chance at avoiding fines and prison time if they finish a treatment program."

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CRIME & DRUGS

FDA Advisory Committees Recommend Simultaneous Opioid, Naloxone Prescriptions In Some Cases.

The Washington Post (12/18, Bernstein) reports two FDA advisory committees narrowly voted Tuesday to recommend "that labels on prescription opioids urge doctors to simultaneously prescribe the overdose antidote naloxone for at least some of their patients." The vote acts "as a message to the government that the fast-acting antidote must be made more widely available, at lower cost and with fewer barriers to obtaining it." Committee member Martin Garcia-Bunuel said, "If done properly, it will help create a conversation, standardize a conversation that protects patients who aren't getting this conversation."

WPost A1: Opioid Epidemic Hitting African Americans Harder Than Whites.

In a front-page story, the Washington Post (12/18, A1, Jamison) reports that "almost entirely omitted from their message has been one of the drug epidemic's deadliest subplots: The experience of older African Americans...for whom habits honed over decades of addiction are no longer safe. Heroin laced with the powerful synthetic opioid fentanyl has killed thousands of such drug users in the past several years, driving a largely overlooked urban public-health crisis." Since 2014, the CDC says the "national rate of fatal drug overdoses has increased more than twice as fast among African Americans as among whites." The Post says the District has been hit especially hard, with 279 fatal opioid overdoses last year, "a figure that surpassed the city's homicides and was greater than three times the number of opioid deaths in 2014." More than 80 percent of victims were African

American.

New Rule: Every Driver Must Provide Breath Sample At Calgary Checkstops.

CBC (CAN) (12/18) reports, "Starting today, every person who drives through a checkstop in Calgary will be required to give a breath sample." CBC adds, "It's part of tough new drinking and driving rules that come into effect across the country on Dec. 18 called mandatory alcohol screening." The new rules "also allow police to demand a breath sample from anyone they pull over for a traffic stop, even if there's no reasonable suspicion that driver is intoxicated. 'We all want to do our part to reduce the tragic impact of impaired driving. We want everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season,' said Const. Andrew Fairman in a news release."

Arrest Made In 27-Year-Old Minnesota Cold Case Murder.

The Minneapolis Star Tribune (12/18, Jany) reports, "The man believed to have stabbed a young woman to death in south Minneapolis 27 years ago was arrested Tuesday, following a new look at DNA and physical evidence." According to the Star Tribune, "Police say the suspect, 56, was arrested in South St. Paul on suspicion of murder in the 1991 death of Belinda Thompson, 20, of Minneapolis." The suspect "was booked in the Hennepin County jail, pending formal charges."

ALSO IN THE NEWS

CDC: Nearly 40,000 People Died From Gun Injuries In US Last Year.

The New York Times (12/18, Mervosh) reports the CDC said Tuesday that "more people died from firearm injuries in the United States last year than in any other year since at least 1968." According to new data, there were "39,773 gun deaths in 2017, up by more than 1,000 from the year before," marking the "largest yearly total on record in the CDC's electronic database, which goes back 50 years." The Times notes that it also was "the third consecutive year that the rate of firearm deaths rose in the United States, after remaining relatively steady throughout the 2000s and the first part of this decade."

TUESDAY'S LEAD STORIES

- **Pelosi Says New House Majority Will Act On "Commonsense" Gun Control Reforms.**
- **Portland, Oregon Police Want To Hire Liaison To Homeless Community.**
- **Barrio Azteca Seen As Top Texas Gang Threat.**
- **London Police Test Facial Recognition Technology.**

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